(b) Government's policy in regard to holding talks with any extremist group in the North East is that it should fulfil the two pre-conditions, namely (i) It should accept the Constitution of India; and (ii) It should stop its violent activities.. No talks are being held with the NSCN.

Violation of FERA by the Express Group of Newspapers

1649. SHRI ANAND SHARMA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Directorate Enforcement has imposed a penalty on the Express Group of newspapers for FERA violation, and

(b) if so, what are the details of FERA violations committed by the said newspaper?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) and (b) Of the show cause notices issued, proceedings in one of the cases has since been adjudicated on 23-12-88 imposing a penalty of Rs. 6 lakhs on M/s. Indian Express Newspapers, Bombay Pvt. Ltd and Rs. 1 lakh on Shri R. N. Goenka for making payment to a non-resident in contravention of section 9(1) (a) of the FERA, 1973.

Manufacturing of arms, etc. by the Ministry of Home Affairs

1650. SHRI CHIMANBHAI MEHTA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether his Ministry proposes to go into the manufacturing of modern arms, bullet-proof jackets and other essential requirements for its captive use; if so, what are the details thereof; and

(b) whether Government are considering to provide modern arms and bullet-proof jackets to the Police, Reserve Police and Central Reserve State Reserve Police; if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVENCES AND PENSIONS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) and (b) The subject item of manufacturing arms concerns the Ordnance Factories under the Ministry of Defence. However, there is no proposal to manufacture arms by the Ministry of Home Affairs. The question of up-dating weaponry and of supply of equipment to Central and State Police Forces form part of on going exercises being reviewed periodically by the Government.

Adding of Alcohol in Petrol to reduce air pollution

1651. SHRI N. E. BALARAM: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that thirteen lakh automobiles in Delhi account for around 50% total air pollution;

(b) whether Government are aware that air pollution from cars is largely due to high tetra-lead retained/added to petrol as an anti-knock agent by Indian refineries which is 5 times more than in Europe;

(c) whether Government are aware that many countries like Brazil, U.S.A. and Sweden have eliminated use of tetralead in petrol by adding 7-20% alcohol in petrol; and

(d) whether Government are aware that 20% alcohol was being added to petrol in India but was stopped sometime in 1945 without Government's decision or knowledge?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI SHIVRAJ PATIL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Tetraethyl lead is one of the major sources of air pollution from gasoline vehicles.

(c) Some countries use unleaded petrol irrespective of whether alcohol is added or not.